

**RESOLUTION No. 531**

**GUIDELINES FOR STRENGTHENING THE LINKS AND  
THE JOINT ACTIONS BETWEEN IICA AND FAO**

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Thirtieth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc. 570 (10), “Joint IICA-FAO Action: Progress and outlook on behalf of the countries of the Americas,”

CONSIDERING:

That, at its Fifteenth Regular Meeting, the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), by means of resolution No. 447, instructed the Special Advisory Committee on Management Issues (SACMI) to: (i) study the document “Strengthening partnership and coordination between IICA and FAO to the benefit of agriculture in the Americas,” and formulate options for closer IICA-FAO integration; and, (ii) present recommendations to the IICA Executive Committee in 2010 on how to proceed on IICA-FAO integration with a view to presenting a formal proposal on this integration, including an analysis of modalities and other considerations, at the 2011 meeting of the IABA;

That, at its 2010 Regular Meeting, the SACMI acknowledged: (i) the complexity and difficulties of a merger of IICA and FAO, the option proposed in the document mentioned in the previous paragraph; and, (ii) that FAO had not received a mandate for its Member States for implementing such a merger;

That the SACMI, considering that a merger was not feasible, recommended strengthening joint action via agreements between IICA and FAO, with the support of the Member States; and

That, based on the above, the SACMI recommended that the Director General present for consideration by the Executive Committee, at its Thirtieth Regular Meeting, a document on IICA-FAO relations including: (i) the presentation made by the Director General and discussed at the 2010 meeting of the SACMI on the mandate contained in IABA resolution No. 447; (ii) information on how the two institutions complement each other’s work, and progress in terms of joint action; (iii) the presentation made by the General Directorate at the Thirty-first FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Panama on April 21, 2010;

and, (iv) the proposed new IICA-FAO agreement aimed at expanding and strengthening joint actions,

RESOLVES:

1. To establish that the strategy to be followed to strengthen the ties between the two institutions is the development of mechanisms to broaden and deepen the coverage of joint actions.
2. To instruct the Director General to continue the efforts to develop new and more effective links with FAO, to strengthen and expand the coverage and scope of joint actions, in the common areas established in the agreements currently in effect and any others that the two parties agree upon in the future.
3. To urge the Member States to propose to the governing bodies of FAO that they issue similar instructions to the Director General of FAO for strengthening joint actions with IICA.
4. To urge the Member States, as far as possible, to promote and support the design and implementation of joint technical cooperation actions by IICA and FAO, both in their respective countries and in the regional integration mechanisms.
5. To instruct the Director General to present for consideration by the Sixteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA: (i) a proposal for IICA-FAO joint work program; and, (ii) a proposal that prioritizes the strategy of support for joint actions as the most viable way of strengthening relations between the two institutions.